

Chief Intelligence Officer
**U.S. Department of
Homeland Security**
Washington, DC 20528



**Homeland
Security**

Statement for the Record of

CHARLES E. ALLEN

**Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis
Chief Intelligence Officer
Department of Homeland Security**

**“DHS INTELLIGENCE AND BORDER SECURITY: DELIVERING OPERATIONAL
INTELLIGENCE”**

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Homeland Security
Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk
Assessment**

JUNE 28, 2006

Chairman Simmons, Ranking Member Lofgren, Members of the Subcommittee,

Thank you for inviting me to speak with you about my role in providing intelligence support to border security. The subject of today's hearing is one to which I have devoted considerable time and energy during my tenure as Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis and Chief Intelligence Officer of the Department. I am gratified to appear alongside my esteemed colleagues from the Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. As members of the Homeland Security Intelligence Council, which I chair, they have been invaluable partners in realizing the Secretary's vision of an integrated DHS intelligence enterprise.

When I arrived last September, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis already was leading a working group on intelligence initiatives in support of the Secretary's Secure Borders Initiative, or SBI. One of my first acts was to launch an Intelligence Campaign Plan for Border Security, or ICP, which Deputy Secretary Jackson introduced to General Michael Hayden, then the Deputy Director for National Intelligence, on Sept. 27, 2005. We kicked off our planning efforts by holding a DHS Border Security Intelligence Conference on 24-25 October, 2005. This conference, held in a secure facility, enabled us to gather inputs from a wide range of DHS and Intelligence Community partners. It proved highly valuable to our subsequent planning.

Among the needed improvements we identified as a result of the conference were greater focus on strategic analysis; coordination and integration of analytic efforts at both the tactical and strategic levels; inclusion of DHS agent and inspector insight in collection and exploitation activities; better-defined areas of responsibility for information sharing; and dissemination of—and identified repositories for—relevant information.

Since then, we have worked on two tracks. On one track, we have taken concrete measures to deliver discrete, actionable intelligence to the men and women securing our borders. I would be pleased to describe some of these measures in a closed hearing, but the need to protect sensitive sources and methods precludes my discussing them in detail in this setting. What I can tell you is that my officers have drawn on their extensive experience in the Intelligence Community to help ensure that DHS gets full benefit from national collection assets.

On the other track, we have been developing a phased framework for sustainable intelligence support to border security. Our overall approach is to bring national intelligence resources to bear on the border while at the same time fusing intelligence from DHS border and immigration activities into an integrated threat picture—at first within individual sectors, but eventually across the length of the border. This approach is consistent with ongoing operational efforts to push the border outward and build a layered defense extending into the US interior. In addition we are maintaining focus on all of our borders to include the Northern Border and maritime domain.

In the first phase of the ICP, covering fiscal years 2006 and 2007, we will develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for collection and analysis of border security

intelligence. During this phase, we will apply our intelligence resources and analytic focus in areas of immediate need. Our research will be comprehensive covering a broad range of topics associated with cross border violence with subcategories of human, drug, weapons, contraband smuggling and trafficking, transnational gangs, documentation fraud, and the violence these topics spawn on the border. The research and assessments we produce will include all agencies with responsibilities in these areas of interest. We will start with the southwest border, progressing to all borders based on threat assessments. We will review lessons learned from the first phase and make any programmatic investments and structural changes that flow from these findings. Finally, we will be on a sustainable footing, allowing us to push the borders outward while supporting interior enforcement.

I should point out that even though our planning efforts pre-date the President's decision to deploy the National Guard to the border, we are taking this deployment into account. We plan to collaborate with the National Guard to ensure its intelligence capabilities are integrated with the overall intelligence enterprise at the border, filling in shortfalls and laying the foundation for the post-deployment period.

As befits an office with Department-wide responsibilities, my office has focused its own staff resources on strategic efforts. In the area of collection and requirements, we are leading the development of a Department-wide intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) architecture that will serve as the central nervous system of DHS intelligence. In the area of analysis and production, we have created a border security branch that is focusing research and analysis on a number of topics relevant to the border, including alien smuggling, counter-narcotics, money laundering, transnational criminal gangs, and identity theft and benefit fraud using travel documents. Finally, we are deeply engaged in efforts to coordinate and streamline interagency intelligence efforts on the border, notably in El Paso, where three valuable intelligence centers, run by elements of three different Cabinet agencies, are exploring new ways to work together on their common mission of securing the border.

I wish to highlight several efforts of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis that will have an indirect, but powerful, effect on the delivery of operational intelligence in support of border security. First, my office has led the Department's development of a plan to support state and local fusion centers across the country. Our plan envisions deploying DHS personnel, including intelligence officers, in a way that is most responsive to each center's particular need. If the fusion centers in states along the border tell us they want particular support in partnering with the federal government on border security, we stand ready to deliver. Second, we have taken on the responsibility for enhancing the Homeland Security Information Network, an important channel for sending intelligence to, and receiving information from, state and local authorities. Third, we are developing an information architecture for the DHS intelligence enterprise in order to promote faster information sharing and greater interoperability—

characteristics that undoubtedly will improve the delivery of operational intelligence in support of border security.

In conclusion, I believe we have been an active and effective advocate of intelligence support to border security, deploying our Department-wide perspective and authorities and the particular skills of our officers on behalf of the entire DHS intelligence enterprise. I look forward to answering your questions.

###